

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Canceled)

10.(Canceled)

11.(Canceled)

12.(Canceled)

13.(Canceled)

14.(Canceled)

15.(Canceled)

16.(Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) In combination, a motorized towing device and a wheeled cart, said motorized towing device comprising: a chassis housing a pair of reversible variable speed direct current electric motors, each of said motors connected to an axle upon which is mounted a wheel; a battery to provide power to said motors; a microprocessor control; a steering column connected to said chassis; and, one or more switches generating signals in response to force applied to said steering column by an operator, said signals received by said microprocessor control and causing said microprocessor control to operate said motors to rotate said wheels in a manner so as to move said chassis at a speed and in the general direction of the movement of said operator; and, a quick release attachment mechanism to releasably secure said wheeled cart to said chassis, said quick release attachment mechanism comprising one or more yokes connected to said wheeled cart and releasably receivable about said chassis, said one or more yokes including a stationary portion, a rotating portion, and a clamp, wherein the securement of said one or more yokes about said chassis through activation of said clamp releasably secures said wheeled cart to said chassis permitting said chassis to tow or move said cart across a surface while permitting rotational movement of said one or more yokes relative to said chassis.

21. (New) A towing device for providing assistive motive power to an operator while walking, said towing device comprising:

a pair of wheels;

a chassis housing at least one motor for causing the rotation of said wheels about an axis to move the chassis over a surface;

a controller for controlling operation of said at least one motor and thereby controlling movement of the chassis over the surface;

a steering column connected to said chassis for steering said towing device;

a quick release attachment mechanism on said chassis for cooperating with a corresponding attachment mechanism of an associated object for towing, the quick release attachment mechanism operating about an axis of rotation of said wheels to permit rotational movement of said motorized towing device relative to said objects,

about said axis;

wherein said controller includes switches for varying the amount of electrical energy distributed to said at least one motor, said switches generating signals corresponding to force applied to said steering column during operation of said device, the signals being received by said controller for controlling the speed and direction of rotation of said at least one motor.

22. (New) The motorized towing device according to claim 21, wherein said chassis houses a pair of motors, each of said motors connected to an axle upon which said wheels are mounted.

23. (New) The motorized towing device according to claim 21, wherein each of said at least one motor is a reversible direct current variable speed electric motor.

24. (New) The motorized towing device according to claim 21, further comprising a re-chargeable electric battery for providing power to said at least one motor.

25. (New) The motorized towing device according to claim 21, wherein at least a portion of said controller is mounted on said steering column.

27. (New) The motorized towing device according to claim 21, in combination with said associated object.

28. (New) The motorized towing device according to claim 21, wherein said associated object comprises a wagon or wheeled cart.

29. (New) The motorized towing device according to claim 21, further comprising a secondary attachment mechanism for releasable securing said steering column to said associated object.

30. (New) The motorized towing device according to claim 21, wherein said switches vary the amount of electrical energy distributed from said battery to said motors.

31. (New) The motorized towing device according to claim 21, wherein said controller comprises a microprocessor that controls the operation of said motors and which varies the speed and direction of rotation of each motor independent from the other to alter the forward and rearward direction and speed of movement of said device

over a surface.

32. (New) The motorized towing device according to claim 21, wherein said quick release attachment mechanism comprises at least one yoke releasably securable about an exterior of said chassis.

33. (New) The motorized towing device according to claim 32, wherein said yoke comprises a stationary portion, a rotating portion and a closure mechanism for securing said upper portion to said rotation portion while permitting rotational movement of said yokes relative to said chassis.

34. (New) The motorized towing device according to claim 33, wherein said closure mechanism comprises at least one of a magnetic, electromagnetic and a mechanical clamp.

35. (New) The motorized towing device according to claim 21, wherein in response to signals received from said switches, said microprocessor operates said at least one motor as a dynamic brake to slow movement of said device.